

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed April 1, 2004, has been carefully reviewed and the following remarks have been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-10 and 12-40 are pending in this application. Claims 1-10 and 12-40 are subject to a Restriction Requirement.

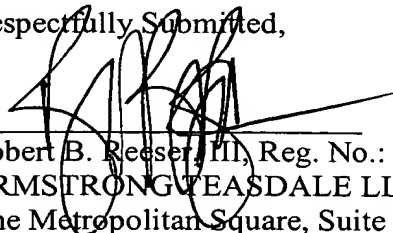
The Office has asserted that there are three groups of claims in this application. The first Group, Group I, contains Claims 1-9, drawn to a method of selecting a shipping carrier. The second Group, Group II, contains Claims 10, 12 and 13-15, drawn to a method of selecting a shipping carrier via a wizard. The third Group, Group III, contains Claims 16-40 drawn to a shipping system.

In response to the Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action, Applicant, with traverse, elects for prosecution in this application all claims belonging to Group III, i.e., Claims 16-40.

Reconsideration of the restriction requirement imposed under 35 U.S.C. § 121 is respectfully requested. The restriction requirement is traversed because the inventions set out by the claims in Groups I, II, and III are clearly related. Applicant submits that a thorough search and examination of any claim group would be relevant to the examination of the other group and would not be a serious burden on the Examiner. For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Restriction Requirement be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action with respect to all the pending claims is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,


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